

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2005

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Black to Black: A discourse about color and race**  
January 16 - February 28, City Hall Fourth Floor

**G.O. Bond Oversight Committee Meeting**   
February 6, 5:30 p.m., Commission Chambers

**Design Review Board Meeting**   
February 7, 8:30 a.m., Commission Chambers

**Commission Meeting**   
February 8, 9:00 a.m., Commission Chambers

**Miami Beach Festival of the Arts**  
February 11 & 12

**International Boat Show**  
February 16 - 20

**South Beach Wine & Food Festival**  
February 24 - 26

For more, go to [miamibeachfl.gov](http://miamibeachfl.gov)  
and click on **calendar**.

 = Live on MBTV-77

## Miami Beach is Safer: Crime Rates Dropping

Safety is one of the top three factors that affect Miami Beach residents' quality of life and one of the areas where improvements would make Miami Beach a better place, according to the results to the citywide survey. And the City is getting safer. The Miami Beach Police Department just released the latest crime statistics. The crime rate in Miami Beach dropped 10.89 percent in 2005 in comparison with 2004.

In comparing 2005 with 2004, violent crimes (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) were down 7.3 percent; while property crimes (burglary, larceny, and auto theft) were down 11.2 percent. Crimes such as homicide and motor vehicle thefts reflected a reduction of 62.5 percent and 20.2 percent respectively. Other crimes such as robbery, burglary, larceny and aggravated assault, showed a substantial reduction as well. These categories combined have been reduced by an impressive 25 percent over the past five years.

Police Chief Donald De Lucca attributed these favorable numbers to the partnership and cooperation that has existed between residents, businesses, elected officials, city administrators, as well as the hard work by the men and women of the Miami Beach Police Department. Through the commitment and dedication of the officers of the Miami Beach Police Department several proactive initiatives to combat crime were initiated during the year. They included:

- The Quality of Life Initiative
- The creation of a fourth shift of bicycle officers which works during the busiest times of the evening
- The creation of the Special Events Voluntary Response Team which supplements the regular staffing during event and holiday weekends.
- The Getting Robbers in Progress (GRIP) detail which targets robberies based on crime analysis information.
- Increased use of crime analysis to better utilize resources to address crime trends

## FREE Movie in the Park

February 10

North Shore Park  
& Youth Center

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

305.861.3616 for movie title

## Hundreds Sign Up for Recreation Programs

Over 600 residents registered for sports programs and enjoyed the fun at the Annual Recreation Expo held at North Shore Park and Youth Center on Saturday, January 21. The activities included a DJ, a bounce house, rock-climbing wall, a bungee station and a sumo-wrestling ring. Hamburgers and hot dogs along with refreshments were also served.

Every year, the Recreation Expo provides parents a convenient and fun means of registering their children for various Miami Beach Parks & Recreation athletic programs, such as intramural baseball and basketball, soccer clinics, girl's softball, and traveling baseball. Teams are located at North Shore Park, Flamingo Park, Fairway Park and the Scott Rakow Youth Center.

The Expo also gave an opportunity for several City-sponsored clubs and teams to raise funds for their individual activities. Members of the North Shore Teen Club collected over \$200 selling ice cream to the sun-soaked participants, and over \$100 were raised by the Shark's baseball team-sponsored batting cage.



For more information on the Parks & Recreation Department Athletic Programs, contact Boris Rodriguez at 305.861.3616.

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

FOR INFO CALL	OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE
305.604.CITY	<a href="http://miamibeachfl.gov">miamibeachfl.gov</a>

**Answer Center**  
305.604.CITY (2489)

**Parking**  
305.673.PARK (7275)

**Mayor/Commission**  
305.673.7030

**Job Hotline**  
305.673.7777

**City Manager**  
305.673.7010

**Tourism Hotline**  
305.673.7400

**Police (Non-Emergency)**  
305.673.7900

**Sanitation/Garbage**  
305.673.7616

**Fire (Non-Emergency)**  
305.673.7120

**Bulky Waste Pickup**  
305.471.4444

**Parks & Recreation**  
305.673.7730

**Water & Sewer (24 hr)**  
305.673.7625

## DID YOU KNOW?

MB magazine is published by the City of Miami Beach bi-monthly in English and Spanish. Look for it in your mailbox this week!



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We are committed to providing excellent public service and safety to all who live, work and play in our vibrant, tropical historic community.



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